IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 22 of page 1 and spanning to line 25 of page 1 with the following rewritten disclosure:

Another option for non-traditional fax transmission is fax forwarding. In fax forwarding, a message from the sender is moved across the Internet and to the recipient's area code. This service requires that the fax-forwarding service have a switch in the recipient's PSTN area code. a drawback is that the faxes are not real-time.

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 29 of page 1 and spanning to line 3 of page 2 with the following rewritten disclosure:

An emerging area that offers non-traditional fax transmission is Internet-ready telephones. These may also be known as Web phones. Two different options serve as examples of possibilities that exist with these phones. In a first example, each telephone switch in the PSTN would have a hypertext transmission protocol (http) server and a fixed Internet Protocol (IP) address. When an incoming phone call comes in that is directed to an area code outside the caller's area code, the server looks up the fixed IP address of the switch in the call recipient's area code. The system would then establish a virtual circuit between the two switches over the Internet. At the call recipient's end, the switch would then route the call to the callee over the PSTN in the local area code. An example of this method is shown in U.S. 6,069,890.

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 19 of page 3 and spanning to line 25 of page 3 with the following rewritten disclosure:

Figure 1 shows an example of a system for sending and receiving faxes across a network. The sender has a device 102 that has access to the network 104. Access could be accomplished through a local Internet Service Provider (ISP) or other network provider, local area network (LAN), or wide area network (WAN), as examples. The devices could be personal computers with modems or Ethernet cards, fax machines, web telephone or a wireless device, such as a hand-held personal digital assistant (PDA).

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 26 of page 3 and spanning to line 30 of page 3 with the following rewritten disclosure:

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In addition to access to the network, these devices 102 and 106 have the capability to set up a peer-to-peer connection in one embodiment of the invention. A fax system resides on each device and a fax service 108 resides on the network 104, to which each fax system can connect. The fax systems interact with the fax service to set up and manage the peer-to-peer connection between the sender and the recipient.

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 31 of page 3 and spanning to line 2 of page 4 with the following rewritten disclosure:

In order to utilize the fax service, the user must initially register with the service. This is shown in Figure 2. In one example, the user activates the fax system for the first time on a device, more than likely at an installation of the fax system. At 202, the user either requests registration or the fax system on the user's device automatically requests registration with the fax service.

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 19 of page 4 and spanning to line 24 of page 4 with the following rewritten disclosure:

In the case in which~~where~~ the user is not already connected to the network, the fax system will request connection to the network. This may be done by a network connection, such as an Internet connection, internal to the fax system, or may be done by locating and activating the network software on the user's device, or initiated by the user via an Internet browser or other network connecting device. Once connected to the network, the fax system would then connect to the fax service.

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 1 of page 5 and spanning to line 7 of page 5 with the following rewritten disclosure:

Once registered with the fax service, the user is free to establish a session to access the service whenever faxes need to be sent or received. An example of a general session interaction is shown in Figure 3. At 302, the fax system is activated. The user may cause the interaction by accessing the fax system directly, or the fax system may activate itself. For example, if the user is working in a word processing or other document-creation software and desires to send a fax, the fax system may launch in response to a selection made by the user in the document-creation software.

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Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 27 of page 5 and spanning to line 2 of page 6 with the following rewritten disclosure:

The user issues a send command at 402. As mentioned above, the user may do this directly with the fax system, locally, remotely, or by whatever means necessary to issue the command, or within a document-creation software application. As part of the send command, the user, now referred to as the sender, will identify the recipient of the fax. The fax system will collect the necessary recipient information, including the recipient's name, fax number, phone number, e-mail address, as possible examples. As one example, the sender may know that the recipient is also a registered fax service user and may only need to send the recipient's name. In another example, the sender may not know if the recipient is registered or not. This will be assumed for the following discussion.

Please replace the disclosure beginning at line 19 of page 3 and spanning to line 25 of page 3 with the following rewritten disclosure:

In Figure 6, the sender 602 and the recipient are connected through the fax service 608 on the network 604. In this case, the connection is not peer-to-peer, but only peer-service-peer. Faxes send through the fax service may or may not be sent in real-time, depending upon the service load, recipient status and other considerations. Transmission from peer-service and service-peer is real-time. One reason for the peer-service-peer connection is for security to not disclose the physical location of the sender/recipient that could be derived from the IP address.

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